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AGFA-GEVAERT, Corporate IP Department 3800,  
Septestraat 27, B-2640 Mortsel (BE).

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(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*):  
**AGFA-GEVAERT** [BE/BE]; Septestraat 27, B-2640  
Mortsel (BE).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): **CAMPRESTINI,**  
**Paola** [BE/BE]; c/o AGFA-GEVAERT, Corporate IP  
Department 3800, Septestraat 27, B-2640 Mortsel (BE).  
**VERMEERSCH, Joan** [BE/BE]; c/o AGFA-GEVAERT,  
Corporate IP Department 3800, Septestraat 27, B-2640  
Mortsel (BE). **VAN DAMME, Marc** [BE/BE]; c/o

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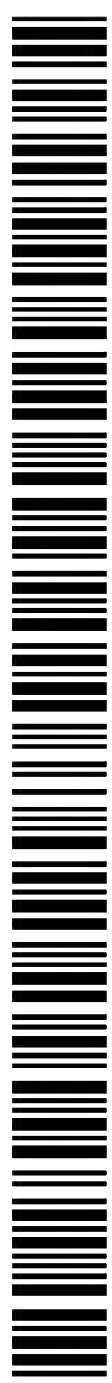
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(54) Title: POSITIVE-WORKING LITHOGRAPHIC PRINTING PLATE PRECURSOR

(57) Abstract: A positive-working lithographic printing plate precursor is disclosed which comprises (i) a grained and anodized aluminum support having a hydrophilic surface and (ii) a heat-sensitive oleophilic coating provided on the hydrophilic surface, wherein said coating comprises (a) a hydrophobic polymer which is soluble in an aqueous alkaline developer and (b) a dissolution inhibitor which is a water-repellent polymer and wherein said coating is capable of dissolving in said developer at a higher dissolution rate in areas of said coating which are exposed to heat or infrared light than in unexposed areas, characterized in that the hydrophilic surface has a surface roughness, measured according to ISO 4288 and expressed as arithmetical mean center-line roughness Ra', which is less than 0.40 µm and the hydrophilic surface comprises a salt of titanium, hafnium or zirconium. A hydrophilic surface, which has a low surface roughness and contains a salt of titanium, hafnium or zirconium, is used to obtain an improved sensitivity of the coating with a reduced staining and an increased printing run length.



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